

REMARKS

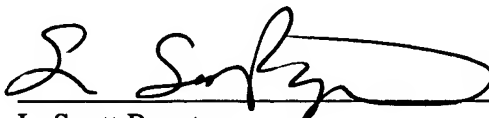
A Restriction Requirement has been sent with a mailing date of July 29, 2004. In this office communication, it was indicated that claims 1-46 are subject to a restriction, setting forth three different claim groups. At the time of filing the application, a preliminary amendment was also submitted which, among other things, cancelled claims 1-19 of group I. Accordingly, it is believed that restriction as to claims 1-19 is moot. Further, by way of clarification, it is believed that none of the claims 20-27 of group II are directed to a method -- contrary to the indication in the Restriction Requirement.

The Applicants elect claims 28-46 of group III for prosecution in the present application. Correspondingly, claims 20-27 of group II have been cancelled without prejudice to consideration in a continuing application. The Restriction Requirement suggested that the elected claims correspond to the embodiment shown in Fig. 2. To clarify, it is respectfully submitted that one or more of these claims correspond to at least one other embodiment described in the present application in addition to that of Fig. 2.

In view of the forgoing, it is believed that claims 28-46 are in condition for allowance. Group III claims 28-46 have been elected in response to the Restriction Requirement.

Reconsideration of the present application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any outstanding matters concerning the present application.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Scott Paynter', written over a horizontal line.

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